



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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17 March 1994

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UDEAC Summit Meeting Ends; Economic Body Created

AB1603143994 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] The 29th summit of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] has just ended. Our special correspondent, Guy-Bertrand Mapangou, is on line. Guy Bertrand, what are the main resolutions?

[Mapangou] The curtains have just been drawn at the 15 January Palace here in Ndjamen on the 29th summit of UDEAC heads of state. The major outcome of the meeting was the signing by the heads of state of the act establishing the Central African Economic and Monetary Community [CEMAC] similar to the West African Economic and Monetary Union [UEMOA].

A new act has just been enacted in the subregion, a new forum for reflection and a new economic framework. UDEAC heads of state are determined to transform their monetary zone into a veritable monetary and economic union. France, [words indistinct], CEMAC, and UEMOA have big integration projects concerning for instance insurance, provident fund, business management rights, the creation of regional centers for economic training, [words indistinct] and economic studies.

Concerning the conventions of the monetary and economic union which were not finalized, the heads of state have decided to set up a committee of plenipotentiaries consisting of ministers of economy, finance, external relations, and justice, as well as the governor of the Bank of Central African States, and the UDEAC secretary general. This committee is expected to finalize these conventions before the next UDEAC summit slated for Yaounde in December under the chairmanship of President Paul Biya.

The council of heads of states also decided to convene a meeting of the CEMAC and donors to study the means of mitigating the negative effects of the devaluation in the countries of the subregion. An act approving the restructuring of UDEAC was signed by the heads of state. Gabon is expected to apply for the post of deputy UDEAC secretary general which was declared vacant during the summit. Other decisions were also made especially in the air, land, and river transport sectors. The heads of state decided to reactivate these sectors by reopening the river route between Bangui and Brazzaville. The European Union has granted 7 billion CFA francs for the reconstitution of this waterway.

Communique Issued

AB1603225494 Ndjamen Radiodiffusion Nationale
Tchadienne in French 1900 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Excerpts] The 29th summit of heads of state of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] ended this morning at the 15 January Palace in Ndjamen. Before putting an end to their deliberations, the heads of state and of delegations of UDEAC member countries signed the act instituting the Economic and

Monetary Community of Central Africa, CEMAC. Those who signed the document were the Gabonese head of state, El Hadj Omar Bongo, that of Congo, Pascal Lissouba, followed by Central African Republic President Ange Felix Patasse, as well as the Chadian head of state, Idriss Deby, who is also chairman of this 29th UDEAC summit that saw the birth of CEMAC. It will be pointed out the representative of the Equatorial Guinean president, Mr. Do Anatolio Ndong Mba, also signed this document. Only the Cameroonian representative, Mr. (Luc Ayan), president of Cameroon's Economic and Social Council, did not sign the document instituting CEMAC. After the signing of this document, it was time for the reading of the summit's communique issued at the end of this 29th UDEAC summit of heads of state. It was read by UDEAC Secretary General Thomas Dakayi Kanga:

[Begin Kanga recording] The 29th regular summit of UDEAC heads of state, as scheduled in December 1993 was held in Ndjamen, capital of the Republic of Chad, on 15 and 16 March 1994, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Colonel Idriss Deby, president of the Republic of Chad, current chairman of UDEAC Council of Heads of State. Those who participated in the summit were: His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the Gabonese Republic; His Excellency Professor Pascal Lissouba, president of the Republic of Congo; His Excellency Ange Felix Patasse, president of the Central African Republic; His Excellency Anatolio Ndong Mba, deputy prime minister, representing the president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea; and His Excellency (Luc Ayan), president of the Economic and Social Council, representing the president of the Republic of Cameroon.

Following their informal Libreville summit relating to the setting up of an economic and monetary community of Central Africa, with a view to giving a new impetus to the subregional integration process, the UDEAC Council of Heads of State has decided to officially launch CEMAC by signing today the treaty instituting this organization. The main mission of this organization is to promote the harmonious development of member states, within the framework of the establishment of two unions, namely the Economic Union of Central Africa, in abbreviation UEAC, and the Monetary Union of Central Africa, UMAC. In each of the two fields, member states intend to promote the already existing cooperation between them to the status of a union to achieve the process for economic and monetary integration.

Concerning agreements on UEAC and UMAC, the heads of state decided to set up a committee of plenipotentiaries composed of the ministers in charge of economic development problems, finance, external relations, justice, the UDEAC secretary general, and the governor of the Central Bank of Central African States [BEAC], both of whom will be rapporteurs to the committee of plenipotentiaries. This committee is assisted by a group of experts to be named by it. It can call on, at any time, any external person, in view of the competence of that person. While awaiting the establishment of these new bodies, the heads of state decided to settle all or part of

arrears owed the UDEAC general secretariat. They called on the staff to resume work immediately.

The heads of state exchanged views on the economic situation of the subregion since the devaluation of the CFA franc and reaffirmed their desire to make coherent their economic policies. For this purpose, they reviewed a number of projects on integration, in the areas of land, river, and air transport, and with the aim of easing the landlocked conditions of some member states. They also reviewed projects in the areas of electric power, fishery, and animal breeding, strengthening trade exchange between UDEAC member states, in particular, the assessment and management of human resources, the handling of science and technology in order to introduce innovation as a dynamic factor of development, as well as the fight against desertification. To this end, they authorized the secretary general and BEAC governor to expand studies as soon as possible.

The heads of state have decided to summon a top-level meeting of the CEMAC after all member countries must have concluded their programs with the IMF. This meeting, to be attended by all financial backers, will assess the compensation measures following the devaluation and ways of revamping the economies of the subregion. [passage omitted]

The term of office of the UDEAC deputy secretary general having come to its end, the president of the Gabonese Republic will propose another candidate for this post. The Council of Heads of State congratulated Mr. Ambroise Ndozi Bongo for the work done during nine years in the service of the Union and wishes him courage in his future duties. [passage omitted]

The heads of state made it a point to thank warmly their peer, President Idriss Deby, the Government of Chad, the Chadian people in general, and the people of Ndjamena in particular, for the brotherly welcome and the African hospitality given them and their delegations during their stay. For 1994, the chairmanship of the UDEAC Council of States 1994 will be assumed by His Excellency Paul Biya, president of the Republic of Cameroon. The next regular meeting of the Council of Heads of State will be held in Yaounde in December 1994.

Issued in Ndjamena on 16 March 1994. Thank you. [end recording]

Observers Say CEAO Dissolution No Surprise

AB1603194394 Dakar PANA in English 1610 GMT
16 Mar 94

[Text] Dakar, 16 Mar (PANA)—The decision Tuesday [15 March] by the heads of states of the West African Economic Community (CEAO) to abolish the organisation was no surprise, according to political observers. The summit held in the Burkinabe capital, seat of the community, ended there "to deal the final blow to a

dying organisation", an official of the Senegalese Ministry of Economy and Finance told PANA.

Set up on 2 June 1972 in Bamako, Mali by Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Mali, Niger and Senegal, and broadened with Benin joining in 1984, CEAO was a community of 51 million people spread over nearly five million square kilometres.

During its 22 years of existence, the community has endured difficulties such as the non-payment of five months of salaries (October 1993-February 1994) to its 450 personnel. Lately, telephone lines and electricity were cut in its headquarters.

However, the problems were predictable following the theft in 1985 of 6.5 billion CFA (1 U.S. dollar; 575 F CFA at today's rate) in what has become known as the "Diawara affair." The theft was from the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community, a specialised unit of the CEAO. Of the 6.5 billion CFA said to have been embezzled by Moussa Ngom (former CEAO secretary general), Moussa Diakite (Fosidec director general) and Mohamed Diawara (businessman and former Ivorian minister), only 400 million F CFA have been recovered to date.

Even though the "Diawara affair" was the starting point of the community's difficulties, its financial problems were worsened when the member states failed to meet their financial contributions. This led to arrears of some 65.5 billion CFA as at 30 June 1993. Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal, the two major contributors, owe the defunct community 50 billion CFA. Of this amount, Cote d'Ivoire owes 34 billion CFA. Only Benin was up to date with its contributions.

However, CEAO, whose mission was to foster the development of economic activities in member states, had all the assets to succeed, according to some experts interviewed by PANA. In fact, with a gross domestic product of 4.3 billion dollars and 10 billion dollars in foreign trade (coffee, cocoa, timber, uranium, iron, oil, cotton, peanuts, water, cattle, tourism and cereals), the community was a real economic force the experts said.

CEAO was strengthened in 1977 with the adoption in Abidjan of a nonaggression and defence assistance agreement. This was aimed at guaranteeing the security for the community.

In order to achieve its task, the CEAO set up several specialised institutions such as the Community Development Fund, the School of Mining and Geology in Niamey, the Regional Center of Solar Energy in Bamako, the Center for Higher Management Studies in Dakar, the School of Fishing in Nouadhibou, Mauritania.

However, hit by an economic crisis compounded by the 50 per cent devaluation of the CFA, decided on 11 January in Dakar, the member states preferred to sacrifice [words indistinct] and for the West African Economic and Monetary Union, set up three months ago and whose deadline for ratification is 30 April 1994.

Cameroon

Minister Expresses Surprise Over Planned Summit

AB1703102494 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
0730 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] We come to the crisis between Cameroon and Nigeria. The Yaounde authorities say they have not been informed about the holding of a summit between Abacha and Biya although unofficial sources report that a summit will be held between President Paul Biya of Cameroon and General Sani Abacha of Nigeria and that the two leaders will meet in a few weeks time with their Egyptian counterpart, Hosni Mubarak, the current OAU chairman, in Abuja. Nigerian Foreign Minister Babagana Kingibe has expressed surprise at this news and in Yaounde, the minister of communication and government spokesman says he has not been notified of this meeting which is rather expected to take place in Togo. Augustin Kontchou Kouomegni, Cameroon's minister and government spokesman, speaks to Raphael Badinga:

[Begin Kouomegni recording] We in Cameroon believe that normally the host country should be Togo since the Togolese leader came to Cameroon and went to Nigeria in connection with the dispute, and his foreign minister went to Cameroon and Nigeria. The Nigerian minister also came here for three days and we worked on the assumption that Togo is offering mediation. We are, therefore, surprised to learn that somehow Nigeria has chosen Cairo because Nigeria has not informed us of any such development and Egypt has not notified us of any invitation to Cairo. Normally, we should be informed, even discreetly, by Nigeria or Egypt. We should negotiate the date, procedure, and subject of discussion together and then we should announce this simultaneously in Yaounde and Lagos or simultaneously in Yaounde, Lagos, and Cairo. That is the procedure in international relations. [end recording]

Equatorial Guinea

Government Adopts 1994 National Budget

AB1603154294 Paris AFP in French 1254 GMT
15 Mar 94

[Text] Libreville, 15 Mar (AFP)—The Equatorial Guinean Government has adopted the national budget for 1994 that amounts to 29.4 billion CFA francs (FF294 million [French francs]) against 13.21 billion in 1993, an official source disclosed today.

The debt department represents about 50 percent of the estimated expenditures in the new budget, the same source added.

According to Minister Delegate of Finance Enrique King Somo, in a telephone conversation with AFP today from Libreville, the state's current expenses amount to 14.94 billion CFA francs and the debt department's to 14.46 billion.

As for the receipts, the budget estimates show that the state's receipts amount to 15.63 billion CFA francs, the minister added. The budget deficit should therefore amount to about 14 billion CFA francs.

This budget, which has more than doubled compared with the previous exercise following the devaluation of the CFA franc by 50 percent, provides for a 14-percent salary increase for civil servants, the Equatorial Guinean radio said.

The average monthly salary in Equatorial Guinea amounts to 14,000 CFA francs.

The new budget should be submitted for approval to the National Assembly before it is implemented, the radio added.

Rwanda

UNAMIR Reports at Least 5 Killed in Kinyihira

EA1603195694 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la
Republique Rwandaise in English 1615 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] A report [word indistinct] by UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission to Rwanda] Information Service this afternoon says that at least five persons were killed yesterday on the road of Kinyihira [demilitarized zone] in the area of [word indistinct] tea factory.

The Information Bureau of the UNAMIR stresses that the five bodies have been identified as those of (Nathanie Nyirinoaya), who was president of the tea cooperative, (Coopthe), and his wife (Amelie). It was also that of engineer (Justin Bukeye) of (Chowarokeri) tea factory, that of (Emile Safari), candidate member of Parliament of the Liberal Party, Mugenzi faction, as well as that of (Bonaventure Diproyi) who was an engineer of the tea factory.

The same source of UNAMIR indicated that it was at about 1740 hours yesterday that a UNAMIR patrol at Kinyihira heard an explosion in the area of (Chowarokeri) tea factory. The patrol immediately ran to the place of explosion where they saw the five bodies lying in a Mazda car with registration plate A8579. The UNAMIR patrol in charge of security in the demilitarized zone found on the spot 10 bullets of an assault gun as well as some fragments of a grenade. Immediately, the UNAMIR has started investigations in order to determine whether these persons were killed by bullets or by grenade fragments.

Burundi**Officers Linked to Coup Attempt Reportedly in Zaire***EA1603203194 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania
External Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] The former Burundi Army officers accused of involvement in a coup attempt five months ago have left Uganda for Zaire. A Ugandan daily newspaper the NEW VISION said today that a former major, Mr. (Bernard Busokoza) and a lieutenant, Mr. (Paul Kamana), had secretly crossed the border from Uganda to Zaire between late February and early March. It said the two were suspected by authorities in Burundi of masterminding a coup attempt last October in which President Melchior Ndadaye was killed by renegade troops. About 100,000 people died in the ensuing ethnic bloodletting.

Burundi had said in December that the two men had fled to Uganda and President Yoweri Museveni ordered their arrest but said they could not be extradited, as the two countries have no extradition agreement.

Kenya**Rift Valley Commissioner Calls Clash Reports Lies***EA1603165394 Nairobi KNA in English 1445 GMT
16 Mar 94*

[Text] Nakuru, 16 Mar (KNA)—The Rift Valley provincial commissioner [PC], Mr. Ishmael Chelang'a, has strongly refuted a story appearing in today's THE STANDARD newspaper that nine people died and hundreds others were displaced in fresh clashes in Molo Division of Nakuru District and vowed that the government will not rest until the motive of the perpetrators of the falsehood is unearthed.

Terming the story as total lies, Mr. Chelang'a expressed shock that anyone in their right mind could engage himself in disinformation campaign with the aim of inciting people into chaos. He said the government will deal with the authors firmly and ruthlessly.

Mr. Chelang'a, who was addressing members of the press in his office, lamented that similar disinformation campaigns responsible for the clashes which hit parts of the province last year, aimed at setting the country on the war path, which could not be allowed [sentence as received]. He called on the security officers in the province to be on the lookout, noting that the story had given a clear indication that last year's instigators of the clashes had embarked on new campaign, which he explained had made a "ritual" towards every end of school term, in order to create tension and fear among residents.

The PC said in last year's clashes similar rumours were peddled by the same people which caused people of different tribes to react, and he urged the people of Molo not overreact to the false story and disrupt the peace they

were currently enjoying. At the same time, Mr. Chelang'a challenged the editorial of THE STANDARD to send an independent group to Kamara area, where the incident was alleged to have occurred, and witness for themselves how people from different tribes resident in the area were peacefully coexisting.

Mr. Chelang'a called on journalists to always countercheck their stories with those on the ground for purposes of authenticity, noting that if THE STANDARD newspaper had bothered to countercheck the story they would have confirmed that it was a fabrication.

Security Forces Arrest Reporters*AB1703110094 Paris AFP in English 0235 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Nairobi, 16 March (AFP)—Two Kenyan journalists were arrested by security forces after publication here on Wednesday [16 March] of a report saying nine people had died and hundreds had been displaced in a new flare-up of ethnic fighting in the country's Rift Valley Province.

The journalists—Ngumo wa Kuria and Peter Makori—both working for the Lonrho-owned STANDARD newspapers, were expected to appear in court in the Rift Valley town of Nakuru on Thursday, probably on charges of "false reporting to create alarm".

Ngumo wa Kuria was picked up in Nakuru, while Makori was picked up from the western Kenyan town of Kisii and brought to Nakuru to face charges for the report, published on Wednesday by THE STANDARD, but which police authorities have strongly denied.

The report quoted 200 ethnic Kisiis who arrived back home on Monday night and told how an unidentified group terrorised people last Friday in Mau Summit of Molo area, killing some people and forcing the rest out of their homes. The area was badly affected at the height of ethnic violence which left more than 1,000 people dead and tens of thousands more displaced last year, until the government stepped in and declared it a security zone in an effort to end the fighting between the majority Kikuyu and President Daniel arap Moi's Kalenjin tribesmen.

Bishops Call For Revision of Constitution*EA1703111094 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
17 Mar 94 pp 1, 2*

[By Emman Omari]

[Excerpts] Eighteen Catholic bishops called for a revision of the Constitution yesterday, saying the political situation in Kenya had not changed since single-party rule. They urged the president to lead the country to democracy and said they would be willing to meet with him.

"The main responsibility is, in a particular way, on the president of the Republic who is also the commander in chief of the Armed Forces and therefore, can change the situation," they said.

Quoting a previous statement, they declared: "As president, he cannot escape his responsibility. He cannot escape the judgement of history."

The bishops made their remarks in a pastoral letter, "On the Road to Democracy," which will be read in all churches serving the seven million strong Catholic population on Sunday [20 March]. Seven prelates, including Cardinal Maurice Otunga, presented the letter at the Catholic Secretariat's headquarters in Nairobi. Parts of the document quoted or repeated previous statements by the bishops or Pope John Paul II or bodies such as the Justice and Peace Commission.

Taking turns to read the letter, the bishops also criticised opposition parties for internal divisions, struggles for personal power and visible orientation towards tribal membership. All this, they said, was "a source of confusion and disappointment" to the people.

The bishops called for the rewriting of the Constitution "to fit our political circumstances." This should be done not by a group of politicians but by an enlarged independent constituent body. "Our constitution was composed when there was a de facto one-party system and was suitable to the situation of that time. "A complete revision has to be entrusted to a large constituent body of experienced competent citizens representing all trends of society and not just to a reduced group of politicians," the bishops said. The Constitution should be endorsed by popular consent.

The bishops complained that KANU [Kenya African National Union] ignored other political parties and interpreted not being a member of KANU as being against the government. This could be seen from utterances of senior ministers that only KANU zones would benefit from government development programmes. National resources, they said, were a right and not a gift from KANU. They said that if KANU could not serve all Kenyans equally then it was breaking the contract of service and had no business being in power "because ipso facto it loses the moral right to govern."

The bishops reiterated that multipartyism was not synonymous with discord but it did not mean democracy had arrived in Kenya.

The letter said the situation in the public universities was chaotic. "No matter how the government would wish the public to forget the university problem, that is just not going to happen. A problem which is postponed is not solved," they said. [passage omitted]

Referring to government efforts to convince people that tribal violence was started by the opposition, the letter said Kenyans had come to believe that the authorities passively watched or collaborated in the clashes. They

said it was well known who ordered the demolition of Maela camp and Nakuru kiosks and who sent bulldozers to Buru Thessalia holding ground to evict people who had lived there for more than 50 years.

"Should we believe the words about national unity pronounced by our president during the celebration of Kenyatta Day or the words inciting to tribal revenge pronounced in Parliament by one of his ministers with total impunity and even support of many KANU members of parliament?" the bishops asked. [passage omitted]

Sudanese President Arrives for Peace Talks

EA1603120994 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Excerpt] President Umar al-Bashir of Sudan arrived in Nairobi at noon today and was received by his host, President Daniel arap Moi, at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport. President al-Bashir is here to attend the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, IGADD, summit to launch the peace talks on Sudan. IGADD's Sudanese peace initiative is chaired by President Moi and aims at restoring peace in the war ravaged southern Sudan. [passage omitted]

Meets With Moi

EA1603204694 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Excerpt] President Daniel arap Moi and President Umar al-Bashir of Sudan today, at State House, Nairobi, held bilateral talks. The talks were in preparation for the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development committee summit to launch the Sudan peace talks. The summit will start tomorrow in Nairobi under the chairmanship of President Moi. [passage omitted]

Somalia

Aidid Urges Formation of New Government

AB1603191194 Paris AFP in English 1659 GMT 16 Mar 94

[By David Chazan]

[Text] Nairobi, March 16 (AFP)—Factional leader Mohamed Farah Aidid on Wednesday [16 March] urged his former foes to join him in forming an interim administration and drafting a new constitution for war-ravaged Somalia. "Conflicts between clans and selfish interest groups must end," General Aidid said in the latest of a series of increasingly dovish statements.

But he blasted his arch-enemy, self-styled interim president Ali Mahdi Mohamed and his allies for calling for the formation of a new government after meetings in Cairo this month which Aidid did not attend. "We all now face a transitional period of two to three years,

during which the foundations of a new decentralised Third Republic and its cooperation with our neighbours will be agreed upon and set out in a national charter," Aidid said in a statement in the Kenyan capital Nairobi.

He has held a series of meetings with regional and Somali leaders in Nairobi since he left Mogadishu in December to attend peace talks brokered by neighbouring African countries.

Aidid said he would return to Mogadishu soon and urged all parties "to come together and form an interim administration and secure our future."

Most key Somali faction leaders and political figures are currently in Nairobi for informal peace talks.

One set of UN-mediated negotiations has brought together Aidid's ally Omar Jays and his rival, warlord Mohamed Said Hersi, known as General Morgan. Their struggle for control of the southern port city of Kismaayo sparked factional fighting that killed nine people last month.

The adversaries will meet at the United Nations complex outside Nairobi this week to agree a date and venue for a peace conference to end the bloodshed in Kismaayo, UN spokesman George Bennett said. "There seems to be a greater willingness on all sides to make concessions," Bennett said.

Aidid's newly conciliatory tone has raised hopes of peace in Somalia after US and other Western troops withdraw this month, leaving a smaller UN operation manned mainly by Pakistani, Indian and other Third World troops.

But diplomats and aid workers remain cautious. Many are convinced that low-level guerrilla warfare among the clans will engulf the country after the Western pullout, welcomed by Aidid whose rag-tag militia humiliated the UN and forced the United States to abandon Somalia after sending thousands of troops to end a famine that killed at least 300,000 people.

The famine was triggered by anarchic clan-based fighting that erupted after Aidid and other rebel leaders ousted former ruler Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

"Aidid has switched roles. Now he's cultivating the image of a statesman, and he's playing clan politics with some skill, but he's still on a collision course with Ali Mahdi," said an African diplomat involved in the Somali peace process.

"Many other disputes will have to be settled before Somalia returns to genuine peace. It's bound to be a slow process," the diplomat told AFP.

Spokesman Says BBC Report on Deaths Fabricated

EA1603192294 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1100 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] A spokesman for the United Somali Congress [USC] said today that the killing of nine Somali bandits by Indian troops serving with UN forces as reported by the BBC Somali Service on 15 March was a complete and malicious fabrication that is far from the actual truth. There was no confrontation between the Indian forces and Somali criminals who allegedly intended to attack the food convoy.

The spokesman said the area where the incident occurred is near the experimental station of [word indistinct] in Wanlaweyn District, Shabeellaha Hoose. He said no criminals attacked the Indian soldiers, but there was fighting going on between two communities who live in the area. It was at this point that the Indian troops, who were passing through, came across the fighting and, without ascertaining what was happening, opened fire, causing deaths and injuries.

Investigations into the incident are currently under way. The USC spokesman called on the communities living in the area and involved in the conflict to end the shameful fighting immediately and assured them that the USC leadership would consult Indian military officials over the shooting incident, with a view to identifying those who committed the criminal act.

Mandela-Zwelithini Meeting Reportedly Canceled

MB1703115894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1141
GMT 17 Mar 94

[Report by C. Doonan]

[Text] Ulundi March 17 SAPA—Friday's meeting between Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini and African National Congress [ANC] President Nelson Mandela appears to be off.

Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] National Chairman Frank Mdlalose told the kwaZulu legislative assembly [KLA] on Thursday that the ANC had objected to the Ulundi venue and had requested it be changed to Durban. Dr Mdlalose however said King Zwelithini wanted to meet in the kwaZulu capital. He said the ANC's Natal premier Jacob Zuma had expressed fear for Mr Mandela's safety in Ulundi.

Dr Mdlalose said the ANC had expressed fears of an assassination attempt on Mr Mandela in Ulundi. He relayed details of telephonic contacts between himself and Mr Zuma on Wednesday night and Thursday morning in which Mr Zuma said his headquarters had received reports of "disturbances of the meeting and the assassination of Mr Mandela".

Dr Mdlalose said he had assured Mr Zuma of the ANC president's safety, and had invited security personnel to the kwaZulu capital before and during Friday's planned meeting.

He added that Mr Zuma had also expressed reservations about a planned gathering of Zulus outside the meeting venue and had suggested it be moved to Durban. "I indicated I did not know where in Durban a spot would be where Zulus couldn't get to," he said. Dr Mdlalose said Mr Zuma had told him that unless the meeting could take place in Durban it should be postponed.

Meanwhile, addressing the KLA later, Inkatha Freedom Party President Mangosuthu Buthelezi said he had arranged for extra South African Police in Ulundi on Friday, saying "only an insane person" would try to assassinate the ANC leader.

He said Friday's meeting would go ahead with or without the ANC president, adding that the king would address his subjects on elections and the constitution at a mass gathering in Ulundi.

Buthelezi Threatens Resistance To Election Action

MB1703101994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0955
GMT 17 Mar 94

[Report by C. Doonan]

[Text] Ulundi March 17 SAPA—Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] President Mangosuthu Buthelezi has warned of

unparalleled resistance should action be taken against opposition to the April election.

"If the current election does actually run its course, and is finally declared a free and fair election, it will be because democratic opposition has been stifled by the might of the state," he said at the opening of the kwaZulu legislative assembly [KLA] in Ulundi on Thursday [17 March] morning.

Mr Buthelezi said opposition to the interim constitution and the elections which met with "draconian or Bophuthatswana-type action" would spawn a struggle for liberation from African National Congress [ANC]/National Party oppression, "which will have no parallel in Africa".

There would no peace or democratic settlement until there was a settlement of kwaZulu issues. Mr Buthelezi said it appeared to him that a free and fair election under the current circumstances was impossible.

Speaking as kwaZulu's chief minister, Mr Buthelezi said the SA Government and the ANC were producing a highly explosive situation in the territory. He warned of an "uncontrolled and unorchestrated internal political spontaneous combustion" in kwaZulu.

"I'm talking about a Bophuthatswana-type explosion, but unlike it as a result that it has not been orchestrated." He charged the SA Government was party to the violence which ousted Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope, and questioned whether it was the government's intention to do the same in kwaZulu.

Mr Buthelezi said the country was poised "on the very brink of disaster...Let us join hands to ensure international mediation runs its course as soon as possible in the interests of peace, stability and justice".

He repeated that the IFP and kwaZulu government would participate in the April poll if: mediation could take place swiftly; certain amendments could be made to the constitution; and the party registration deadline and election date could be reconsidered.

Mr Buthelezi reiterated that his constitutional demands remained those proposed in the Freedom Alliance's yellow paper of December last year.

Modise Warns Buthelezi of Continued Obstruction

MB1603210894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1600 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation—African National Congress, ANC, military wing] commander Joe Modise has warned kwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi that he will suffer the same fate as Dr. Lucas Mangope of Bophuthatswana should he persist in being an obstructionist in the way of a new South Africa. Addressing a rally at Mothibistad near Kuruman,

Mr. Modise said the target was not homeland government's but the government in Pretoria. He said victory would be claimed after President F.W. de Klerk had been removed from power.

The office of the kwaZulu chief minister says the ANC alliance and certain trade unions will not succeed in sowing distrust between kwaZulu public servants and the kwaZulu government. The kwaZulu government said allegations of misuse of pension funds were untrue as it paid the pension contributions of kwaZulu public servants to the South African Government on a monthly basis for investment.

De Klerk Notes IFP Initiative for Participation

MB1703073894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0730 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Report by M. Schnehage]

[Text] Johannesburg March 17 SAPA—President F. W. de Klerk said he was working on an "Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] initiative" which might signify a breakthrough in the constitutional deadlock and the IFP's non-participation in the April election.

Mr de Klerk did not elaborate on what the initiative entailed, but said it raised a "slight hope", adding the negotiation remains the responsible route. The IFP missed the final deadline to submit its candidates list on Wednesday [16 March].

Mr de Klerk made these remarks at a breakfast meeting on the second of election tour through the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] region.

Mr de Klerk told businessmen attending the breakfast that the IFP's abstinence was a "dark cloud", but there was "a crack of light ahead". He assured his audience that they had nothing to fear under a new dispensation.

Mr de Klerk commended the issuing of a pamphlet in kwaZulu, which assured kwaZulu government employees the non-participation of the IFP would not affect their "career or pension security".

He said kwaZulu government employees would become part of the integration process, when the civil service of the kwaZulu/Natal province is structured.

ANC-IFP Reach Tentative Agreement on Mediation

MB1603154794 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1500 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] The African National Congress [ANC] and the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] working group on international mediation has reached a tentative agreement on possible names of mediators to end the constitutional deadlock. However, agreement could not be reached on the terms of reference for the mediators. Dr. Frank Mdlalose of the IFP and the ANC's Mr. Jacob Zuma said

they would not release the names of the mediators before consulting their leaders. Dr. Mdlalose emphasized that the working group did not mean that the IFP would participate in the elections.

Ten CP Members' Names on Freedom Front List

MB1603180894 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1600 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] The deadline for the submission of amended candidates lists for the election expired today with a blow to the Conservative Party [CP]. About 10 of its MP's [member of parliament] are on the final candidate list of General Constand Viljoen's Freedom Front. Earlier today CP leader Dr. Ferdie Hartzenberg said any member who made himself available as a candidate for the election would automatically lose his CP membership. Veronica van der Westhuizen reports:

[Begin recording] [Van der Westhuizen] The Freedom Front did not want to disclose the names of the CP candidates and said it would do so tomorrow. This move led to a split in the Conservative Party. One of the suspended CP members, Dr. Pieter Mulder, said he was very disappointed by the move.

[Mulder] We are really sorry that it happened this way. We had an agreement yesterday that it was possible to have a double strategy for people that want to take part in election to prove the support for self-determination and the other part, and that we can dab it together and that it would be put on Friday to our head committees like that, and suddenly there was a change in plan on the CP side and they just said we are not in the party anymore.

[Van der Westhuizen] There were no major changes on the amended National Party lists. Earlier, it was expected that prominent Inkatha Freedom Party members would be included, also the African National Congress had no major changes. The future of the Northwest Christian Democratic Party, of which former President Lucas Mangope of Bophuthatswana is the leader, is hanging in the balance. President Mangope said he could not meet with his parliament to discuss participation in the election. [end recording]

Natal Executive To Form Core of List

MB1703081694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2251 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Report by E. van Wyk]

[Text] Pretoria March 16 SAPA—Pro-election right-wing leader Gen Constand Viljoen is widely believed to head the Freedom Front's [FF] candidate list, which includes 10 MPs.

At least seven CP [Conservative Party] MPs are included on the list, including the Mulder brothers Pieter and Corne, and CP MP Joseph Chiole who are expected to be high up.

Mr Chiole said the the Front had "significant" candidates on all its lists. Apart from the CP MPs, a former National Party MP and prominent Afrikaner Volksunie [National Union—AVU] leaders appeared on the list.

He would not give names but it is understood former AVU members Chris de Jager and Moolman Mentz were included. The CP's Natal executive would probably form the core of the FF's candidate list in the province with former CP leader Carl Werth in a prominent position.

Dr Pieter Mulder told SAPA the inclusion of CP MPs on the list did not constitute a split in Conservative ranks. He said there was no division over the concept of a "volkstaat" [Afrikaner homeland] but there were differences over strategy on how to obtain it.

"I'm not fighting with the CP but against the National Party and the African National Congress."

The FF candidate list was still subject to change and the names would be announced on Thursday [17 March].

Former CP MP Joins Front

*MB1603154594 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1236
GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] Pretoria March 16 SAPA—Former Conservative Party [CP] MP [member of parliament] for Ermelo, Moolman Mentz, has joined Gen Constand Viljoen's Freedom Front, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Wednesday [16 March]. Mr Mentz said he had accepted a request to make himself available as a candidate for the Freedom Front in the April election. The Freedom Front was meeting in Pretoria on Wednesday morning to finalise its candidate list for the election before the 4.30PM deadline.

Party Permitted To Lodge Amended Candidates List

*MB1703110994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1101
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Report by L. Elias]

[Text] Johannesburg March 17 SAPA—The Independent Electoral Commission [IEC] has given the North West Christian Democratic Party permission to lodge its amended list of candidates by 4.30 PM on Thursday [17 March], the IEC said in a statement. "The party has also been informed that the IEC will afford it and its office bearers or candidates the same recognition and protection as it affords all parties," the statement said.

Lebowa, Kwandebele Chief Ministers on ANC List

*MB1703082694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0756
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Report by Thomson]

[Text] Johannesburg March 17 SAPA—United People's Front [UPF] Secretary-General Nelson Ramodike has resigned to contest the election as an African National Congress [ANC] candidate. Mr Ramodike, also chief minister of Lebowa, made the announcement in a statement on Wednesday [16 March].

At the same time, kwaNdebele Chief Minister M. J. Mahlangu announced his resignation from the UPF. He is also on the ANC's candidates list.

In identical statements, Mr Ramodike and Mr Mahlangu said the UPF, which is registered to contest the elections, had been meant to campaign under the ANC's banner and logo. They said they were resigning to avoid violating the standing agreement of the Patriotic Front, of which the UPF is a member.

PAC President Discusses Election Participation

*MB1603153294 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
16 Mar 94 p 10*

[Report by Editor Mathatha Tsedu]

[Text] The Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] of Azania goes into this election fully confident that the oppressed masses will see through the fraud of the Kempton Park agreements and remember that the PAC opposed the deals. But even more, said president Clarence Mlamli Makwetu, the PAC hoped that Africans would vote for it because of the policies it espouses.

Policies such as a "caring economy", land repossession, its stand on violence, housing provision, health and on privatisation. Plagued by internal dissent over its participation in the negotiations, Makwetu says the decision was right and the PAC has many gains to show for its participation.

The chairing of the deliberations by judges had "given the regime an advantage as the judges are not neutral but State appointees. We said they should go, and they went", he said. To accusations that the PAC was "an also ran", a party that went into the talks but fails to get any of its points across, he said:

"We opposed the division of the country into regions. We were against the entire package. We want the return of the land and opposed property rights given to settlers. We did what we did but they were refused. But we got vote for the African people. We fought for it and we got it and that is important," Makwetu said.

While the interim constitution provides for semi autonomous regions that are getting more powers through

trilateral talks with the rightwing, the ANC [African National Congress] and the Government, the PAC wanted a centralised country and was asking for a mandate to change the interim constitution and bring a more people-oriented system.

"We rate our chances as very good. Opinion polls are not a factor, they do not worry us when they say we have very little support because they are never accurate. In Britain they said the Labour Party would win the last election and it did not happen. In Zimbabwe they said the same thing about ZANU [Zimbabwe African National Union] and Mugabe. In Lesotho recently, the BNP [Basotho National Party] was given a big lead, only for the BCP [Basotho Congress Party] to win all seats. We rely on the grassroots and our chances are good.

"We do not have money. We are not a rich organisation and we shall cut our suit according to our cloth. We are not going to rely as much on the media advertisements as other rich parties but we will do the canvassing ourselves. And it is in these campaigns that we see the support. When the PAC was formed in 1960, we had only six branches on the Cape Peninsula, and a few in Soweto, Natal and Pretoria. But today for example, out of the 28 districts in Transkei, we have over 40 branches. We have branches all over the Orange Free State, Transvaal and the Cape. Our strength is there," he said.

Makwetu could not explain in detail what the caring economy promised by the PAC was. The PAC was opposed to capitalism and favoured socialism as a broad concept. "We want an economy that takes care of its people. Socialism itself as a word is meaningless and we believe that socialisation of economy, through the participation of workers in the process of ownership of industry will ensure that workers' interests are protected. Workers should be involved in decision making and also carry some of the responsibility that goes with that. Those who argue that socialism would fail, and that investors would flee should look at what is happening in China, where the entire Western world is flocking now," Makwetu said.

The PAC rejects the cut-off point of 1913 for land claims as contained in the interim constitution. "We say 1652 is the start of the land dispossession and should be the cut-off point. We will not pay for land that was stolen from us when we take it back. Compensation will only be considered for improvements made to the land," he added.

The repossession of the land will however not mean that each and every African will be given a piece of land. "Africans will have to make up their minds whether they want to be workers or farmers. And in the case of the latter, proof of an ability to farm will be needed before land is allocated for farming. We will also give each squatter a piece of a plot to live on. There is enough land in our country to do that and there is no need for the congestion that we see in every town."

The PAC does not have all the answers to the housing problem, he said. It foresaw a co-operation between the State—which would provide land and infrastructure—and the private sector. The PAC saw the ongoing violence as a state orchestrated phenomenon and rejected the idea that it was black on black. The PAC would curb ownership of guns and change laws so that no one could own 27 weapons as presently allowed by the law.

The violence had nothing to do with the armed struggle as the revolutionary forces were directing their energies against the regime, he said. His organisation cannot be specific about its health policy, except to say that one health care system will be in place. Whether the service will be free he could not yet say, he added.

The same applied to privatised national state concerns such as Iscor [South African Iron and Steel Corporation], Telkom and the Railways. Nationalisation usually benefited the new elite and not the people. The PAC however supported affirmative action but this would have to be done in a way that did not result in the lowering of standards.

Doors had to be opened and opportunities created for the development of entrepreneurs so that "Africans are not just a nation of workers and shop stewards." The playing field was presently unequal for political campaigning despite talks of this being done. "The international community and big business are supporting one party and I am afraid that I may not be able to convince my colleagues in the event of losing that the process had been free and fair," he said.

The PAC was however committed to the process and will honour and accept the outcome of the elections as it was convinced that despite all the hurdles, the African community would see through the process and vote for a party that will truly give them freedom and justice.

More UN Election Monitors Arrive 16 Mar

MB1603185894 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1600 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Another 200 UN election observers have arrived in South Africa and are being taught about South African conditions, the political scene, the media, and voter education. The observers are also being trained in security matters by the South African Defense Force and the South African Police, and in first aid by the Red Cross. They will be deployed throughout the country on Monday to monitor the election campaign. Besides the 500 observers already in the country, an additional contingent of at least 1,300 will be deployed in mid-April and will stay until 2 days after the election.

Mangope Interviewed on House Arrest, Elections

MB1603143994 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1100 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Telephone interview with deposed Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope by Ken Daniels on the "Channel Africa Report" program—live]

[Text] Deposed President Lucas Mangope of Bophuthatswana has been placed under house arrest by the South African administration in the formerly independent homeland. Mr. Mangope is on the line now confirming the arrest, which he says is preventing him from taking part in the democratic process in South Africa.

[Mangope] That's correct, yes.

[Daniels] In terms of what provisions or what law have they done that?

[Mangope] I don't know really. That is what baffles me. My own children are not to see me. My own children, my own family, immediate family, are not allowed to see me. I just cannot accept that. I'm not allowed, my wife is not allowed, my children with me here, are not allowed to go to my son's house. And I feel that is not right.

[Daniels] Have you been specifically told that you are not allowed to campaign in the election?

[Mangope] Yes, Dr. Tjaart van der Walt said that.

[Daniels] Said that you will not be permitted to canvas?

[Mangope] Well, he said they are restricting me in the interest of free political activity, whatever that means. In the interest of free political activity they are imposing this house arrest on me.

[Daniels] And would you have liked to have taken part in the election? Were you planning to do so?

[Mangope] My people were meeting today to discuss that. I have informed them what the position is, I mean, as it is, it is impossible. In any case there are parties who have not registered and who are therefore not going to take part in the election. I was going to put the matter of registration to my parliament yesterday. And if yesterday my parliament had adopted the recommendation, I'd definitely take part in the elections, but I was denied that.

Comments on Right-Wing Involvement

MB1603162694 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1508 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Telephone interview with deposed Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope by Ken Daniels on the "PM News Wrap" program—recorded]

[Text] Former president of Bophuthatswana Lucas Mangope has clarified some of the events leading to the chaos in his homeland last week. In an interview with Ken

Daniels, he explained AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] leader Eugene Terreblanche's involvement with the events that led to the downfall of his government.

[Begin recording] [Mangope] He said he spoke to me about their helping us and I said: No, I can't say yes; speak to my security people. I referred him to Mr. Cronje.

[Daniels] He didn't go on with your consent, as it were?

[Mangope] No, the people I spoke to and the people I invited are the Volksfront [National Front] people of Constand Viljoen.

[Daniels] With hindsight now, do you think it was a mistake—Mr. Terreblanche coming into the country?

[Mangope] Well, I mean, he was not invited. I think it was a mistake that when he was told to leave he didn't leave. The people who were in charge—my people in charge of security repeatedly requested him to leave but he, apparently, according to what they tell me, he would not leave.

[Daniels] Did you think the whole situation could have been avoided altogether—the traumatic events of the past few days?

[Mangope] I don't know. I think you should direct that question to the African National Congress [ANC], to the Communist Party, and to the Nationalist Party who started the strikes. It has for a long time been the policy of the African National Congress and the Communist Party to destabilize Bophuthatswana, to make Bophuthatswana ungovernable, and to topple my government.

[Daniels] But were you not facing a situation which a large section of your people were in fact supporters of the ANC?

[Mangope] That has not been proved to me. I don't know if you have proof of that, that is the case. In any case even if that were the case why not allow me two days to put this matter to parliament—for parliament to adopt a resolution in terms of which we would take part and that question that you asked would be proved right or wrong—whether I have support or not, and also flowing from that resolution would be free political activity for other parties because we would not engage in an election campaign and deny others, other parties to do the same. We were literally denied the opportunity to prove that in fact we have...we have majority support in Bophuthatswana.

[Daniels] Could you not have held a referendum?

[Mangope] I have said all along that should the results of negotiations be satisfactory to us and should we be convinced that the constitution such as has been negotiated will bring a better life for our people, we'll go back to our people, but you know that up to the eleventh hour,

which was last week, there was an impasse. We have said, therefore, that let there be international mediation. We are prepared to abide by whatever the mediation ... [pauses] whatever will emerge from the mediation, and we then will go to our people. [end recording]

Mangope's 'House Arrest' Measure Lifted

MB1603164794 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1600 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Deposed Bophuthatswana [Bop] President Lucas Mangope was placed under what was in effect house arrest this morning. The interim administration of Bop put him into what it called protective custody at his residence in Motswedi as a temporary measure, apparently in an effort to stabilize the situation, but the measure was lifted this afternoon after Dr. Mangope telephoned Inkatha Freedom Party leader Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi and asked him to mediate with State President F.W. de Klerk on his behalf. Dr. Mangope had telephoned the Office of the State President earlier but was told that Mr. de Klerk was in a meeting. In a telephone interview Dr. Mangope's son Eddie told TV news what happened.

[Begin Eddie Mangope recording] Chief Buthelezi called him out of the meeting and posed this simple question: Why do you do this to President Mangope, and if it were you would you ... [changes thought] How would you feel if you were not allowed to be visited by your son, being under house arrest. [end recording]

Earlier today Dr. Lucas Mangope said his residence was being guarded by South African Defense Force soldiers. He spoke to TV news by telephone.

[Begin Mangope recording] I was surprised to be told by Dr. van der Walt this morning, only when I inquired, that I had been placed under house arrest—well, he called it protective custody—those of my family who are with me—namely, my daughter and son, and my wife—may not leave our premises and that my family ... family members may not come in to see me, including my own children. [end recording]

Government May Prosecute AWB for Invasion

MB1703074094 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Excerpts] State President F.W. de Klerk says the government has taken preventive measures to ensure that there is no repetition of the Bophuthatswana events in other homelands. Addressing a news conference in Pretoria, President de Klerk said he would do everything possible in the next few days to allay fears that general chaos could break out elsewhere in the country. [passage omitted]

Referring to the Bophuthatswana debacle, Mr. de Klerk said the government was considering prosecuting right wingers involved in the invasion of the homeland. Possible violations of Bophuthatswana and South African

laws by AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] members and other members of the Afrikaner Volksfront [National Front] were also being investigated.

Cronje Predicts Collapse of Anti-ANC Homelands

MB1603205794 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1600 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Former Bophuthatswana chief negotiator Rowan Cronje has predicted that other anti-ANC [African National Congress] homeland governments could collapse in the same way as Bophuthatswana. He said that what had happened in Bophuthatswana was happening in Ciskei today and could happen in kwaZulu tomorrow. He said homelands not aligned to the ANC could expect the same turmoil that had brought about the demise of Bophuthatswana. Meanwhile, hundreds of nurses in Ciskei have staged a protest in Bisho to demand that their pensions and gratuity payments be paid to them before the end of this month. Yesterday, Ciskeian public servants warned that they could turn to Bophuthatswana-style civil disobedience if their pensions were not paid out.

Functions of Homeland Administrators Outlined

MB1603170094 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1646 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Report by S Denny]

[Text] Mmabatho March 16 SAPA—The joint administrators of Bophuthatswana on Wednesday [16 March] issued a decree which will effectively hand over control of the former homeland to the South African Government and the Transitional Executive Council [TEC]. Job Mokgoro and Dr Tjaart van der Walt made the announcement at a press conference in Mmabatho.

In terms of the decree, yet to be promulgated, the co-administrators will take over responsibility for Bophuthatswana under the supervision of the South African Government and the executive council.

The decree, which applies to the whole of the territory, suspends part of the constitution. Existing law will apply until it is amended, substituted or repealed and all former state departments will continue until they are abolished or re-organised.

The co-administrators will take responsibility for any legal matters applicable to the former state president, executive council or ministers of state or parliamentary members.

Dr van der Walt and Mr Mokgoro's functions will include re-establishment of good government in Bophuthatswana, the restoration of essential services, suspension of the constitution and promotion of free political activity to facilitate the holding of free and fair elections.

They will have the power to make laws for peace, order and good government and may amend, substitute or repeal any such law.

The Independent Electoral Commission Act, the Transitional Executive Council Act, the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act and the Electoral Act of the Republic of South Africa will apply in Bophuthatswana.

The joint administrators will take responsibility for all liabilities and obligations incurred by the Bophuthatswana government before March 12.

They will also be liable for any legal action against the former homeland before the decree.

Public property in possession of anyone who held office under the former government will be recovered.

NP Reacts to Mandela's 'Reckless' Statements in Durban

MB1703124794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1215 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Report by Clive Govender]

[Text] Durban March 17 SAPA—African National Congress [ANC] President Nelson Mandela's statements at an election rally in Chatsworth, Durban on Wednesday night were reckless and irresponsible, National Party [NP] MP Dr Johan Steenkamp said on Thursday [17 March].

At the rally, Mr Mandela told thousands of supporters that senior state officials were perpetrating violence. The ANC leader also charged that the NP was fomenting violence. "I hope that before April 27 there will be sufficient evidence to show that there is a 'third force'," said Mr Mandela. Dr Steenkamp said the ANC president's statement was an "insult to the intelligence of the public".

The Goldstone Commission had conducted a thorough investigation and found no proof of the existence of a "third force".

"It is common knowledge that the ANC itself is involved in by far the majority of cases of violence and intimidation throughout the country."

Dr Steenkamp said if Mr Mandela was serious about intimidation he would acknowledge his own party as the "main culprit, and do something about it". Mr Mandela's hard-hitting statement also undermined his stature as a Nobel peace laureate, Dr Steenkamp concluded.

Government: ANC, DP Naming of PWV Capital Premature

MB1603094794 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] The government has criticized statements by the ANC [African National Congress] and the DP [Democratic Party] that Johannesburg will become the capital of the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] region. The minister of regional and land affairs, Mr. Andre Fourie, said in Pretoria that although the government had no objection to Johannesburg as the provincial capital, no decision in regard to any of the nine regions had been taken. He said decisions on regional capitals would be taken democratically after the election.

Ciskei Government Yields to Worker Demands for Pensions

MB1703091994 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] The Ciskeian Government has yielded to pressure by public servants, and has persuaded the trustees of the pension fund to pay out pension contributions to striking workers. The government said in a statement that the liquid portion of the fund would be paid out and that certificates would be issued to contributors indicating how much they would receive once the fixed assets had been sold.

*** New ANC Youth Leader Interviewed**

94AF0098D Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 22 Jan 94 p 9

[Report on an interview with ANC Youth League President Lulu Johnson by Deon Lamprecht; place and date not given: "Lulu Wants To Fight for Freedom for All; Mokaba Successor Is No Dove"]

[Text] Lulu Johnson, new president of the African National Congress (ANC) Youth League, is not a dove. Political observers and journalists quickly began to compare Mr. Johnson to his controversial predecessor, Mr. Peter Mokaba, but he is a diplomat and not a fighter—the right choice to lead the youth in this time of reconciliation. Or so they say.

It is easy to come to such a conclusion. Where Mr. Mokaba's speeches are full of passion and fire, Mr. Johnson is cool, calculating, and logical. But on Saturday, shortly after Mr. Johnson's inauguration at the Youth League's annual convention in Soweto, Mr. Tokyo Sexwale, the ANC district leader for the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] area, warned that the young lion's bite should not be underestimated. The enthusiastic singing and dancing with which the approximately 1,500 delegates greeted his inaugural address attested to his popularity among the militant youth.

When you sit in his office high above Plein Street in Johannesburg, his eyes keep you riveted to your seat. He is not put off by a joke, and he does not smile during the interview. As is the case with most of the offices in Shell House, the ANC's headquarters, there is a long line of people outside his door. The furniture is sparse and Mr. Johnson's sports shirt is not suited to the warm summer day.

Lulu is actually short for Mlungisi, he says. He often leans forward over his lectern when he wishes to emphasize his words. About his fiery predecessor, Johnson says: "Mokaba's bully image was created by the media. There are other leaders who make bellicose talk, but the media singled him out. Peter is a dedicated fighter for freedom and human rights. But like many other people who were leaders under apartheid, he is no stranger to rage."

Johnson (29) has few pleasant memories of Keiskammahoek, the place where he was born in Ciskei: "I will always remember how a policeman forced me to strip naked so that he could search me." He had his baptism of fire during the tumultuous 1980s in the burning townships of Port Elizabeth: "In those years everything was simply consumed by the struggle. We had to fight to survive. I was born in the struggle. It is my mission to fight for freedom for all the people in this country," he says.

Johnson does not like to answer the question as to whether he is a Christian, but it was his involvement in a Christian youth organization that led him to start judging the system of apartheid by the Scriptures and he rejected it. His political career then accelerated. He joined the Congress of South African Students (COSAS) in 1980 and he was the national president of that organization in 1983 (Mokaba was also a COSAS man). Shortly after COSAS was outlawed by the government in 1985, Johnson was arrested for his political activities. After his release in 1989, he found himself once again in the trenches and around December he advanced to become vice president of the ANC Youth League—the office he occupied until he was elected its president last week.

What course are the ANC youth going to take? "The Youth League is a militant organization and we will always remain so. The struggle is by no means over—we will continue to fight," he said. "Until there is peace and democracy for everyone in South Africa, the youth will continue to have to defend their townships at night with AK-47 rifles. The illusion of a 'lost youth' is rubbish. We were never lost—we were at the forefront of the struggle and we will always be there."

He believes that the youth have a role to play in national reconstruction and development: "We cannot, however, bury the bitter fruit of 300 years of apartheid overnight; we are looking rather at a period of at least 10 years. That is why the Youth League is looking at five-year programs for reconstruction and development in all areas."

COSAS' cause still remains near and dear to his heart. "Black matriculation examination results were pathetic, but the roots of the problem lie in apartheid. The education crisis is going to get worse next year—thousands of students are going to be turned away because of unfair admission requirements and because they do not have the money."

Johnson rejects the rumors that the ANC leadership is afraid of its youth and is modifying its policy to appease young people. "As Youth League president I am also a member of the ANC's National Executive Committee. Our working relationship with the ANC is excellent—I can walk into Mandela's office at any time. Although we are a part of the ANC, we do not play second fiddle to it—we make our own decisions." He does foresee that the Youth League will always be a pressure group within the ANC. "It is for that reason that I am a proponent of a youth parliament that would see to the interests of youth at the highest level."

And are the more militant members of the ANC Youth League attracted by the bellicose talk of the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC)? "I personally investigated the situation when those rumors began to circulate, primarily in the Vaal River Triangle and Soweto. I and my people on the scene kept a watchful eye on the situation and I do not know of any member of the Youth League who joined the PAC."

Regarding the contributions of the DP [Democratic Party] and other South African and foreign organizations to the freedom struggle he says: "There are those who claim to be experts on freedom and democracy. But the same DP that now claims to be a champion of democracy regarded the ANC's freedom fighters as terrorists until recently. P.W. Botha and Van Zyl Slabbert were in collusion."

This young lion has a warning for right-wingers: "Those organizations that are pursuing only violence should be aware that time is running out for them. They had better not come looking for rapprochement at the last minute." But, after all, the olive branch is there as well. "Even then we will be ready to accept them. We offer a home for youth across the entire political spectrum. We fight for peace and democracy for all South Africans."

Sexwale said at Johnson's inauguration that he spoke like a future president. Perhaps he is right. After all, Nelson Mandela had his baptism of fire decades ago as the leader of the ANC Youth League.

De Klerk: Government Prepared for Right-Wing Sabotage

MB1603205894 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] State President F.W. de Klerk says the government is prepared to counter any plans by right-wing elements to destabilize the country. At a news conference

in Pretoria, de Klerk referred to right-wingers who regard the 31 March as so-called D-day. Linda van Tilburg reports:

At the end of the weekly cabinet meeting de Klerk said tonight that the right-wing is apparently planning to declare a homeland in several parts of the country on the last day in March. He said there is talk of the occupation of towns and sabotage. De Klerk also said plans are being made by the government, the Independent Electoral Commission, and the Transitional Executive Council to ensure that the election does take place in kwaZulu-Natal. Referring to confusion among civil servants in places like Ciskei, concerning their jobs and pensions, De Klerk gave the assurance tonight that the interim constitution guarantees these rights.

* Viability of Northern Cape Homeland Questioned

94AF0098B Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 1 Feb 94 p 9

[Report on a lecture by Dirk Viljoen of the Afrikaner Freedom Foundation by Nols Nieman; place and date not given: "Problems Legion in That Afrikaner Refuge"]

[Text] *A growing number of Afrikaners regard the Northern Cape region as their homeland and are quietly moving there, says Professor Carel Boshoff, chairman of the Afrikaner Freedom Foundation (Avstig). He himself has just moved there. But how viable is that region as an ethnic state? Dirk Viljoen, a municipal and regional planner from Pretoria, recently delivered a lecture on the viability of the region as a homeland.*

An ethnic Afrikaner state can only succeed, according to Avstig's definition, in a region like the Northern Cape where the number of other peoples and groups is low, said Viljoen. Problems, however, are going to be legion. "Success will depend on whether enough Afrikaners will support it. I do not believe that this is currently the case. That will probably happen only long after a black government has come to power." Because whites only constitute 15.6 percent of the region's population while coloreds and blacks make up 58.5 and 25.7 percent, respectively, it will be some decades before Afrikaners become a majority or a significant element in the region.

Cooperation with other peoples and groups is therefore necessary at the outset. This must be based on principles that have to be given thought in advance and that must never give rise to doubts among the Afrikaners and the other groups. "It must be clearly set forth that, after a period of time, Afrikaners are to reach an agreement with the other groups in regard to a geographic partitioning. Development must have partition between Afrikaners and coloreds as an important goal in the medium and long term. Absolute clarity must also exist from the outset in regard to autonomous activity."

One of the greatest problems is the Northern Cape's very limited economic base. With the exception of Kimberley, Uppington, and De Aar, the economy is still in a primary phase where agriculture and mining predominate. Another problem is the very small populace of about 700,000 people. Rural population growth is low and only moderate urban growth is occurring. The "penetration" of blacks into the eastern subregion as a result of its proximity to Transkei, Qwaqwa, and Lesotho also threatens the ethnic state because these factors will exist in the future as well. The level of education is also very low. It will take a very long time to train the work force, of which 70 percent have completed the eighth form or less or have never attended school at all.

The Northern Cape gets little rainfall and water is scarce. Its geographic situation and its climate will always restrict development. Some of these disadvantages can be overcome by proper development policy and strategies. The two most important river systems—the Orange and Olifants Rivers—flow only through the western subregion and the northern parts of the central and eastern subregions. The region has an extensive primary road network but the other road networks are only poorly developed. The northwestern part's major highway connections to the more developed eastern areas are limited.

The system of major railway lines also has serious shortcomings. The rail line from Cape Town to the north and the one from Kimberley to Postmasburg, Sishen, and Hotazel are not interconnected and they are not operated as such. Few scheduled airline flights land in the region—even Kimberley does not have very regular service. A good deep sea port is lacking as well. The established urban concentrations are relatively small and do not constitute a strong base for development. It will cost a lot of money to develop the inadequate major infrastructure. The private sector can contribute, but the greatest responsibility will rest with the central and regional authorities.

Viljoen said that more favorable geographical and physical conditions for development, such as exist in other parts of South Africa, would have resulted in more trained workers and entrepreneurs. In the Northern Cape, such migration will occur primarily due to other factors. "One such factor is, of course, the desire of Afrikaners to experience their freedom in an ethnic state. The question, of course, is at what pace will Afrikaners seek refuge in the region after the election of a majority government." It will probably take longer than a decade for Afrikaners to establish themselves in the Northern Cape. This will greatly affect the pace of development and it is for that reason that the region will have to be systematically marketed among Afrikaners.

Success will depend greatly on the management of development efforts. A future regional government will not be able to accomplish that alone. The private sector, SABRA [South African Bureau of Racial Affairs], and

other organizations with the same goals will have to actively participate. Organizations that represent ethnic state Afrikaners will have to become involved—politically and in other ways—in the regional government.

* Right-Wing Syndicates Stealing From ANC

94AF0098C Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 18 Jan 94 p 3

[Text] George—Right-wing fraud syndicates are stealing money from, among others, the African National Congress (ANC) and are electronically transferring it to AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] accounts, according to a white medicine man. Rumors of transactions of up to 40 million rands [R] came to light here in an urgent bail hearing for a white medicine man who claimed to have involved with these syndicates as a member of the AWB.

David Julius Myburg (30) of Myl Avenue, Wildernishoogte, the herbal medicine doctor, was taken into custody Friday in connection with a fraud case involving R2.7 million from the sale of the Gold Reef City Hotel. The court was told that the money was illegally transferred last year from the account of Liberty Life at the First National Bank in the Braamfontein suburb of Johannesburg. In the urgent hearing that lasted until late Friday night in Magistrate H. Buhr's court, bail in the amount of R20,000 was granted to Myburg, who last week opened a practice and store here on Sandkraal Road, Thembalethu. Myburg's passport was seized, and the case remanded to the Johannesburg District Court and scheduled for 18 February.

Myburg, a married man with two daughters, testified that until about eight months ago he had been engaged in obtaining money for the AWB from Gold Reef City. The former owner of the hotel, who sold it last month, had paid all of his expenses while he was acting as an intermediary among the various fraud syndicates and had no income. He testified that he accompanied a Gerhard Anderson, who had been responsible for the transactions because the AWB did not trust him. Anderson had allegedly claimed that the sale and transfer of the hotel was an authorized transaction, but he subsequently fled. Myburg received a commission of R150,000 from the owner of the hotel for his part in its sale as well as for the sale of another hotel.

According to him, the bank stopped payment on a second check for the same amount and some of those involved fled with the money. Because things went awry and he was being held responsible for the missing money, he fled here. He called up John Vorster Square [police headquarters] about the conspiracy to defraud. "We were convinced that the money was coming from leftists but we only discovered where the money was coming from after the banks stopped payment on the checks," he maintained, referring to the electronic transfer of funds from Liberty Life's account.

"There was a long list of transactions involving money transfers that I knew about. Up to R40 million were supposedly transferred from the ANC's account. This went on after I had already left. I am now giving second-hand information," he said in response to questioning.

Since he and his family established themselves here, Myburg has been making money from Thembalethu's people by "telling their fortune." Previously, he had earned as much as R60,000 per month as a medicine man at The Wheel in Durban. His inventory consists of, among other things, ivory valued at R40,000.

South African Press Review for 17 Mar

MB1703135594

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Weakening of the Right Wing—"There are those who will say that the weakening of the Right is a good thing, because any split will make it more receptive to the changes taking place," notes the page-6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 15 March. "Not so. A strong Afrikaner Volksfront [National Front—AVF] gives the White Right a vehicle for presenting its volkstaat [Afrikaner homeland] aspirations. If that vehicle breaks down, the Rights cause is harmed, and that can spell trouble, since a frustrated people will turn to violence as the only means of achieving their objectives. Besides, General Viljoen [leader of the Freedom Front], though he blew hot and cold over armed resistance, was able to keep the extreme Right in check, and this is no longer possible."

Call for Freedom Front To Outline Party Platform—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 16 March in its page-6 editorial notes that the Freedom Front is "gearing itself for the election." But, "other than being against the National Party [NP] and against the ANC [African National Congress], for a volkstaat but against violence, except as a last resort, to achieve one, for taking part in the election and against sitting on the sidelines, Gen Viljoen has not expressed one political idea that could be regarded as the basis of a party platform." "The sooner the front outlines its platform, the better it will fare at the polls."

THE STAR

TEC Must Address Civil Servants Concerns—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 17 March in a page-18 editorial commends the Transitional Executive Council (TEC) for the speed with which they moved "to allay the fears and concerns of civil servants, especially those employed by the various homeland administrations." The TEC has resolved to establish a task force "to defuse the crisis which is building up in the homelands." The TEC must ensure that its task force "does not become a forum for political point-scoring, and that it

works speedily to address the concerns of all civil servants, including those working in the rest of South Africa. There is a real threat of widespread civil service turmoil, which could harm the transition process and even the election itself."

SOWETAN

Complications in Planned Mandela-Zweliithini Meeting—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 17 March in a page-8 editorial refers to the meeting between Nelson Mandela and Zulu King Zweliithini scheduled for 18 March, saying two things complicate it: "the imbizo, that is the call to the king's subjects to accompany him to the meeting, as well as the venue, the grounds of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly. When the king met State President F.W. de Klerk in Durban recently, he was accompanied by an estimated 60,000 subjects. More can be expected in the heart of KwaZulu." "The wrong word or the wrong gesture could cost this country dearly."

CAPE TIMES

SACP Influential Role in Power-Sharing Government Unlikely—On page 6 of Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 14 March, Colin Legum comments in his "Election Notebook" column on the National Party's "relentless warning that a future ANC government will, in fact, be masterminded by communists." But Legum believes that the South African Communist Party (SACP) "is unlikely to play an influential role in a power-sharing government between itself, the ANC, NP and one or two smaller parties." "For the foreseeable future, it is the ANC that will wag its communist appendage rather than the other way around. The differences between the ANC and SACP are likely to increase, not to diminish. The ANC's future preoccupation in retaining the support of the black youth is going to be with the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) which has a history of hostility to the communists. Sadly, a more sophisticated analysis of the relationship between the

ANC and SACP finds no place in the emotional climate engendered by the NP's 'red scare' propaganda."

BEELD

Bophuthatswana Unrest Brought Necessary Change—Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans of 14 March argues in a page-8 editorial: "A shocking event is sometimes necessary to bring necessary change. A few dramatic days in Bophuthatswana made sure of that. Many things changed irrevocably. First, the rule of Lucas Mangope came to an end. South Africa is again in control of this territory, which at one stage was the leading light among the national states. Bophuthatswana is part of South Africa again, but it could have happened with less trauma and loss of life..." "Second, it was demonstrated clearly that the AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] cannot be anyone's knight in shining armor. The organization carried its racism and indiscipline into an explosive situation and made matters worse. If their members believed they were going to be received as heroes, they suffered a rude awakening when they saw how unwelcome they were. Eventually they had to leave in disgrace. We can only hope that the AWB invasion represents the final kicks of the era of mercenaries and white armed interference in black affairs." "The events in Bophuthatswana also served as an election catalyst. The on-going row in the Conservative Party [CP] and the Afrikaner National Front has suddenly been resolved: General Constand Viljoen and a group of moderates decided participation is a much more constructive option than boycotts and armed protest." "The position of Dr. Ferdi Hartzenberg is on the line. Since he became leader of the CP, he has led his party deeper into the desert. He and the AWB leader are the ones who started the war talk. Does he realize, after the events in Bophuthatswana, just what war is? Surely the right wing cannot have such a death wish that they prefer war above honorable negotiation. The people in the CP and other organizations must urgently reconsider and decide whether they need a change of leaders and policies. We have not the slightest doubt what the answer ought to be."

Angola**UNITA's Valentim: Power Sharing Not Central Issue***MB1603180594 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Report by correspondent Joe Mwinga in Lusaka on the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Excerpt] The UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] delegation at the Lusaka peace talks returned today apparently more willing to compromise. UNITA spokesman Jorge Valentim told reporters that the rebel movement no longer considered power sharing central to the issue of the talks. He said that UNITA did not want to gamble everything away by insisting on a few ministerial positions which the government were not prepared to give. The most important issue, he said, from UNITA's point of view, were guarantees that the opposition would be able to participate freely in the country's politics. [passage omitted]

UNITA To Propose Amendments to Government Offer*MB1703073994 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Report by correspondent Pedro Manuel in Lusaka]

[Text] The issue of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's [UNITA] participation in the country's government has not been resolved because UNITA has not yet responded to the government's offer. Last night, a source close to UNITA described as interesting the government's offer, adding however that UNITA was going to propose some amendments. The source declined to comment on the nature of such amendments, saying only that UNITA will today continue its meetings with the mediators and the observers to discuss the matter.

Meanwhile, another source has said that UNITA continues to avoid a definitive settlement to the problem and is only making general considerations concerning the government's offer. It is believed, though, that the mediators and observers want concrete answers from UNITA and will likely exert pressure on it today to obtain them. We will have to wait and see.

Envoy Satisfied With Security Council Resolution*MB1703071994 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Excerpts] In New York, the UN Security Council has approved the continuation of the UN Angola Verification Mission's mandate until 31 May of this year. Though it did not approve a new sanctions package against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], the UN Security Council meeting, which wound up after midnight, could yet approve such

sanctions at a meeting to be held two weeks from now, should UNITA insist on war.

In the resolution it approved, the UN Security Council urged an end to hostilities and condemned all behavior that hinders humanitarian work in Angola. [passage omitted]

Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, Angolan ambassador to the United Nations, has expressed satisfaction about the fact that the UN Security Council has told UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali to present a report on the evolution of the Lusaka peace talks over the next two weeks, after which UNITA could be severely punished, should it continue to resort to warmongering behavior.

[Begin Mbinda recording] We are very happy to know that the resolution adopted by the UN Security Council gives a two-week deadline for the UN secretary general to present a report on the evolution of the Lusaka peace talks. We are also very happy to learn that, should UNITA continue to hamper the implementation of the peace process, the UN Security Council will again analyze the problem and impose whatever sanctions it deems necessary. [end recording]

Speaking to the press only minutes after the UN Security Council meeting, Ambassador Afonso van Dunem Mbinda said the Lusaka peace talks had deadlocked all because UNITA is unwilling to budge.

[Begin Mbinda recording] We can say that the Lusaka peace talks have come to a halt. The Angolan Government has just advanced a proposal, it has just made an offer, in which it proposes that UNITA be given several ministerial posts in the central government, the provinces, and other areas where UNITA can participate in terms of the peace process. The government did so as a gesture to encourage national reconciliation. UNITA has not accepted that gesture by the government. UNITA demands, needs, or requires more ministerial portfolios. It has demanded far more than what it deserves. Our government has already noted that it will not make any more such concessions. So, this was an offer the government made UNITA and now the government is unwilling to negotiate that offer. If we negotiate an offer, we will be [words indistinct] of the electoral process which makes it clear that it is up to one of the so-called sides, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, to form the government and govern. [end recording]

The Angolan ambassador to the United Nations also voiced the opinion that the international community must exert pressure on UNITA to end the war and make greater efforts to reduce the Angolan people's suffering. [passage omitted]

UNITA Attacks Government Position; 5 Killed

MB1603205694 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] A Luanda military source says a National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] battalion attacked a government armed forces position in Dange ia Menha region of Cuanza Norte Province. In retaliation, government forces killed five of Savimbi's men and took three others prisoner. Assorted war materiel was captured.

In the central region, UNITA raided the Diogo and Kiangolo Wards, 6 km from the capital of Ebo District, Cuanza Sul Province. In retaliation, government forces stormed a UNITA position, freeing 35 civilians held captive by Savimbi's men.

The source added that UNITA used its artillery to shell Chivulo Mission in Huila Province. Savimbi's men stole heads of cattle from private farmers, 6 km from the capital of Quilengues District.

In Namibe Province, Jonas Savimbi's men raided Casimbas, 41 km from the capital of Camacuio District.

Malawi

Oppositionist Views Government Stand on Pioneers

MB1703053594 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 16 Mar 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] [Words indistinct] the Malawi Young Pioneers has been disarmed and disgraced, then President Banda himself has been proposing their rehabilitation. Opening parliament yesterday, he said the act that set them up would be repealed, but also suggested that the Young Pioneers who had fled the country should be recalled, and their misdeeds of the past forgiven and forgotten. He has even suggested that old civil servants could be retired and their jobs be given to the Young Pioneers. The disbandment of the Young Pioneers was, of course, one of the (?crying) demands of the opposition. Aleki Banda, first vice president of the opposition United Democratic Front, UDF, was himself instrumental years ago in setting up the Young Pioneers. On the line, Josephine Hazeley asked him if he was happy with the president's decision to repeal the Young Pioneers Act.

[Begin recording] [Banda] Not quite. You see, the issue of the Young Pioneers is a very important issue here. In the National Consultative Council what we have insisted on [words indistinct] is that first we want a full report of what has been done to delink the Malawi Young Pioneers from the MCP [Malawi Congress Party]. Secondly, a full report on the disarmament. Now, we have not received any report up to now. Therefore, we are not

satisfied with any statements that are made unilaterally by the MCP and the Malawi Government.

[Hazeley] But surely, making them illegally, repealing the Young Pioneers Act is a step in the right direction, you must admit.

[Banda] Well, that is certainly a step in the right direction, except that, of course, he goes on to say what is going to be done about them, and various other matters. Now, all these are matters which we are deeply interested in. They have not involved us in the formulation of any of the policies which he has announced.

[Hazeley] The president has said he would like for everybody to embrace the Young Pioneers because after all they are your children.

[Banda] Well, we agree with that. We do agree that they are our children, they're our nephews and nieces. We ourselves have said that we have no desire to victimize them, except of course for those who may have committed crimes for which, of course, each individual would answer for. But we would still like to be involved in the formulation of policy regarding the future usage of these useful resources that we have.

[Hazeley] So, you don't find it distasteful to incorporate the Young Pioneers into the civil service?

[Banda] Well, probably as a general principle no. But it can't just be a wholesale incorporation of the Young Pioneers. We have to look at the numbers, at the various individuals to work out the most appropriate way of solving this problem.

[Hazeley] Now, the president has also suggested that as a matter of reconciliation, he would like to propose that those who are old members of the Young Pioneers should be retired and given full, terminal benefits.

[Banda] Well, as I say we are prepared to look at all those proposals, including retirement of those who are old, but we insist—certainly on behalf of the UDF—we would insist that we should be involved in all these decisions. We should discuss them.

[Hazeley] Aren't you just simply making a mountain out of a molehill as far as the Young Pioneers are concerned. The president has [words indistinct] with concrete ideas as to the future of these people, and you in the opposition haven't.

[Banda] Well, we are certainly not making a mountain out of a molehill because the Young Pioneers issue is a very sensitive transitional issue. The Young Pioneers did many things during the referendum process which were unacceptable. Now, this is a very important issue which really requires full consultation among all interested parties in this country in order to solve this problem in the best interests of Malawi.

[Hazeley] Some people say you, Aleki Banda, ought to be [words indistinct] because after all you had set these people up in the first place, the Young Pioneers.

[Banda] Oh, definitely. Well, I really understand I was the first commander of the Young Pioneers, and was commander for 10 years. During the 10 years of my commandership, the main emphasis for the Young Pioneers was in development. The basic principles for which they were formed is still valid up to now, except that in later years the Malawi Congress Party misused them, or rather abused the movement in order to further their ends. [end recording]

Mozambique

CSC Meets; Renamo Proposes Reduction in FADM

MB1703085294 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] The Supervision and Control Commission, CSC, has not reached agreement on the salaries to be paid to the soldiers in the future Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, FADM. Labor Minister Teodato Hunguana has said that the problem must be viewed objectively. He added that solutions must be found that are in tandem with the country's realities.

At the CSC meeting yesterday, the Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo, proposed that the number of FADM troops be reduced to 20,000 men so that better salaries can be paid to them.

Formation of New Defense Force Under Way

MB1603124994 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] A total of 1,602 Mozambican Government and Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] soldiers have already left their assembly areas to join the future Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, FADM. The process for the formation of a single army should gain new impetus as of next week with the start of the first infantry (?course) at Boane and Manhica military training centers in Maputo Province, and Dondo in Sofala Province.

A total of 44,000 government and Renamo soldiers had been confined to their assembly areas by 13 March. The government has confined 51 percent of its troops. Renamo has confined 69 percent of its men.

Chissano Leaves for Business Meeting in Tanzania

MB1703053694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] The Mozambican delegation to the round table on business activities in Africa in the city of Arusha, Tanzania, will present a document on private and foreign investment in the country. The delegation led by President Joaquim Chissano left Maputo today for that neighboring country to take part in the round table to be

attended by other African leaders and businessmen. The delegation includes Finance Minister Eneas Comiche and Trade Minister Daniel Gabriel.

Renamo's Domingos Views Recent Visit to U.S.

MB1603201594 Maputo SAVANA in Portuguese 11 Mar 94 p 6

[Interview with Raul Domingos, head of the Mozambique National Resistance delegation to the Supervision and Control Commission, by Lourenco Jossias at Hotel Cardoso in Maputo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Jossias] You have just visited the United States. Can you tell us what the objective was of your visit and your itinerary?

[Domingos] My visit had two parts. The first part involved a program organized by the U.S. Information Agency. Our group included people from different nationalities. We visited different institutions, such as the Senate's Center for Strategic Affairs, the Carnegie Peace Institute. [passage omitted]

[Jossias] And what was the second part of your program?

[Domingos] As an official of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo], I took the opportunity to hold talks with U.S. officials. As you are aware, we could not travel to the United States during the war to make contacts in favor of Renamo.

Once I was in the United States, I could not lose the opportunity to establish contacts that would be useful to my party. Thus, I again returned to New York and Washington.

In New York, I held talks with a number of UN officials. The highest contact I had was with James Jonah, UN assistant secretary general for political affairs. In Washington, I had contacts at the level of the State Department, and the highest contact I had was with George Moose's assistant because Moose was out of the country.

I held very important meetings with people in charge of African affairs.

I was very fortunate in my contacts because they were held at a time when independent voices spoke well of the progress of the Mozambican peace process and the troops' confinement.

People always thought it would not be possible to reach a peace agreement with Renamo. They thought Renamo had no control over its troops. One year has passed and our troops have not carried out one unusual movement. We were able to show that we can order an effective cease-fire, that we are able to confine our men in a disciplined manner. We were able to demonstrate that there is command within Renamo and this gave us a certain credibility with the U.S. public and the State Department.

When all this information is received by the United States, it gives us a certain credibility that we did not enjoy before.

I had the opportunity to speak to people who in the past were Renamo's critics, like Chester Crocker. It could not be expected that he would receive someone from Renamo. Herman Cohen, with whom I met on many occasions in Rome, was also very amenable.

I was also fortunate because of other reasons: My visit to the United States took place at a time when the Electoral Law had already been approved, the electoral commissions and the Elections Administration Technical Secretariat are already functioning. There is significant progress in the troops' confinement process, particularly considering that Renamo is confining larger percentages of troops compared with the government.

I also had contacts with the International Center for Strategic Studies, the Republican Institute, and the National Democratic Institute. They were all very positive meetings.

[Jossias] What was the reason for all these contacts?

[Domingos] Most of my meetings were aimed at briefing the officials there about the present situation in Mozambique and to prepare the visit of my president to the United States.

[Jossias] When is he visiting the United States?

[Domingos] Well, at first, we thought the visit would take place in April, but we have now realized that that is not the best time. First, there will be Easter celebrations during the month of April and many people go on holidays. Second, in April, there will be elections in South Africa which will attract the attention of both the U.S. people and Mozambicans. There is a very short period between Easter celebrations and the elections. That is why we set President Dhlakama's visit to the United States for May.

[Jossias] Does the choice of the date depend entirely on you or does it also depend on the United States?

[Domingos] We made the last alterations together. First, President Dhlakama will visit the United Nations at the invitation of the UN general secretary. Then he is thinking of going to Washington for contacts with the State Department.

[Jossias] Mr. Raul Domingos, do you think you have been able to change the image that the United States had of Renamo, that it was a terrorist movement?

[Domingos] Well, at least I, myself, was not received as a terrorist. I cannot say that I was the one who changed the situation because that cannot be done in a few days. A series of actions that we have been carrying out contributed toward the change of image.

The image that people had of Renamo in Washington, United States, is no longer the image of Chester Crocker's Renamo and the Gerson Report.

The image that Renamo had as a result of the Gerson Report disappeared following my visit, the progress registered here with the approval of the Electoral Law, the beginning of the confinement process, and the behavior of our forces in assembly areas. All this helped to change the image.

What I did in the United States was to give the true picture of Renamo. I can therefore safely say that the present Renamo's image is not the Gerson Report's image. It is the image of the Rome Accord.

[Jossias] And what about the coincidence between your departure for the United States and the publication of the U.S. State Department report accusing Renamo of human rights abuse...didn't it harm your visit?

[Domingos] Not at all. I was at the State Department, and I told the officials there that the accusation was false. The State Department lamented the report and also agreed that it was not true. It said there are people who collect information and write and the department has no authority over these people. The department officials believe the report was exaggerated.

I believe that this is the work of forces hostile to Renamo and perhaps it was not just a mere coincidence that the report was published when I was leaving for the United States. All the same, there were other credible news sources which at the time said good things about Renamo. When I arrived in the United States, the NEW YORK TIMES had just published a series of positive information on Renamo. This established the necessary balance, which enabled us to see that our image there was positive.

[Jossias] Did you meet with Renamo representatives during your visit to the United States?

[Domingos] Yes, I met with some members. As you are aware, they do not live in the same city. Some of them had come here, but they were very happy to see me there. As they said, it was the first time that a Renamo leader from the bush in Maringue had visited the United States. Only Renamo officials living in Germany and Portugal had visited the United States. Thus, they said I was bringing special warmth because I was coming inside the country.

During my visit to the United States, I was able to introduce my colleagues there to officials in the State Department. It was not an official introduction because of the formalities involved. All the same, I took the opportunity to introduce them as our men there and this gave them greater strength.

[Jossias] Did you meet with other Mozambicans, apart from Renamo members?

[Domingos] I was unable to because of my working agenda.

[Jossias] What went wrong during your visit to the United States?

[Domingos] Nothing really. If I had to make an assessment of my visit, I would only think of one thing that was bad, the weather. It was very cold there.

Zambia

Official Notes 35 Percent of Youth Unemployed

MB1703085394 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 0500 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] The government says 35 percent of the youth in the country are unemployed. Deputy Labor Minister (Kadami Mandambo) told Parliament yesterday that, according to the Central Statistics Office [words indistinct] the unemployed youths are between the ages of 16 and 25. Mr. (Mandambo) was responding to a question by MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] Member of Parliament for Chembe Datson Sokontwe, who wanted to know how many (?youths) were not employed. He said 65 percent of the youth in the same age group are working.

And [word indistinct] National Party Member Dr. Inanga Lewanika, who wanted to know how many girls between the ages of 16 and 25 are unemployed, was told by Mr. (Mandambo) that the question about girls was a new one.

Zimbabwe

Agriculture Minister Comments on Land Policy

MB1603154694 Johannesburg SABA in English 1401 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Harare Mar 16 SABA—Zimbabwe's Agriculture Minister Kumbirai Kangai on Wednesday [16 March] insisted there was "nothing wrong" with government

action in seizing white-owned farms and then leasing them to cabinet ministers, MPs and civil servants.

Mr Kangai said it was part of government policy to "develop indigenous commercial farmers".

The minister also confirmed reports that the first farm to be seized in terms of the controversial Land Acquisition Act was initially intended for 33 peasant farmers from an overcrowded neighbouring communal land but was instead leased to Minister of Education Witness Mangwende.

The law allows the government to force white farmers to sell their land and denies them the right to sue for unfair compensation.

Mr Mangwende was the agriculture minister two years ago who bulldozed the policy into law, leading President Robert Mugabe's "revolutionary" land policy to correct imbalances in land distribution.

Some 4,000 white farmers own 11 million hectares of land.

Mr Kangai who faced the press on the scandal for the first time on Wednesday, said the government's resettlement policy was "very clear" in securing land not only for peasants, but also for people who happened to be senior government officials.

The government was in the process of "addressing the disparity of the position, and developing the indigenous commercial farmer", Mr Kangai said. "Mangwende happened to be an individual who had an application on our file," he said.

"For that farm, for the people who applied, he was the most suitable. There is nothing wrong with that," he added.

Mr Kangai insisted Mr Mangwende had met "the right criteria".

When charged that a similar case in Britain would have resulted in the responsible cabinet minister being fired, Mr Kangai replied, "I am glad I am not in the UK".

Benin

Ministry Workers Strike To Protest Colleague's Arrest

AB1603132594 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French 14 Mar 94

[Summary From Poor Reception] Finance Ministry workers staged a sit-in strike in front of the ministry buildings this afternoon in protest against the arrest of one of their colleagues, Louis Fadognon, in connection with the publication of administrative documents on the 10-million-CFA franc diversion case involving Mrs. Rosine Soglo. The slogan for this afternoon's sit-in was the "immediate and unconditional release of our colleague." In a motion read during the sit-in, the finance workers said they will pursue their action until they obtain the "unconditional release" of their colleague.

A Finance Ministry workers' union executive committee member spoke to the media about the conditions of arrest of their colleague, noting in particular that "he was transferred from Kalavi to the Territorial Brigade Department and was not allowed any contacts." The brigade approached the human rights committee, which confirmed that the accused "was notably arrested in connection with the 10-million-CFA franc case" and that the committee was working on the case. The union leader further said: "We are mainly fighting for the security of workers."

Employee Released on Bail

AB1703085094 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French 0615 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Excerpts] Louis Fadognon, the Finance Ministry employee who was arrested on 11 March, was released on bail yesterday. His colleagues had protested his arrest. He was arrested in connection with the publication of administrative documents on the 10-million-CFA franc affair involving Mrs. Rosine Soglo. He spoke to Marcel Sodot soon after his release yesterday.

[Begin recording] [Fadognon] I am now free thanks to efforts by my colleagues and friends. I would like to thank everyone for all their help. [passage omitted]

[Sodot] Why were you finally released?

[Fadognon] I was released because proceedings are under way.

[Sodot] So, you have been released on bail.

[Fadognon] I have been released on bail. The case has been taken to court, and the rest will follow. [end recording]

Burkina Faso

Prime Minister Ouedraogo's Appointment Terminated

AB1703103594 Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion Nationale du Burkina Radio in French 0630 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Decree No. 94120 terminating the appointment of the prime minister, issued by President Blaise Compaore in Ouagadougou on 16 March]

[Text] The president of the Republic of Burkina Faso and chairman of the Council of Ministers,

Considering the Constitution;

Considering Decree No. 92173 of 16 June 1992 appointing the prime minister;

Considering Decree No. 93276/PM of 3 September 1993 and Decree No. 94037/PM of 18 January 1994 reshuffling the Burkina Faso Government;

Considering the resignation letter of Youssouf Ouedraogo dated 16 March, decrees:

Article 1: The appointment of Youssouf Ouedraogo as prime minister is terminated.

Article 2: In application of the provisions of Article 69 of the Constitution, the members of government shall carry out current ministerial business until a new government is formed.

Article 3: The present decree shall be published in the official gazette of Burkina Faso.

Cote d'Ivoire

Defense Minister Receives Nigerian Army Delegation

AB1603133194 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaîne Nationale-Une Network in French 0700 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] A Nigerian Army delegation is visiting our country. The delegation was received yesterday afternoon by Defense Minister Leon Konan Koffi. The visit is in line with the fraternal and friendly relations between our two countries.

During the audience granted by the defense minister, the spokesman of the Nigerian delegation presented the condolences of the Nigerian Army to Cote d'Ivoire following the death of the supreme commander of the Cote d'Ivoire National Armed Forces, His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Speaking about the late illustrious leader, the Nigerian Army spokesman said President Houphouet-Boigny was not only the president of Cote d'Ivoire but also the leader of whole of Africa. The Nigerian ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire was present at the audience.

Ghana

Parliament Confirms Ministerial Appointments

AB1703115094 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Excerpt] Six nominations made by the president for the appointment to the post of a minister and deputy minister of state were approved by Parliament today at its sitting. They are Dr. Kwabena Adjei, minister of lands and forestry; Dr. Mohamed ibn Chambas, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Madam Patience Addo, deputy minister of education; Owuraku Amofah, deputy minister of tourism; Mr. Claytus Avoka, deputy minister of lands and forestry, and Mr. E.D. Narnor, deputy minister of works and housing.

Yesterday, the appointment vetted the nominees. The appointment of five others were also confirmed by the house. They include the minister of environment, science, and technology, Dr. Christine Amoako-Nuamah; the minister of works and housing, Mr. Kwasi Amankwa, and the minister of tourism, Mrs. Vida Yeboah. The rest are two deputy ministers of environment, science, and technology, Dr. Farouk Braimah and Mr. Kofi Peasah. [passage omitted]

Liberia

ECOMOG Reports 2 Factions Begin To Disarm

AB1603173294 Paris AFP in English 1709 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Monrovia, March 16 (AFP)—Two of Liberia's armed factions have begun to disarm, while a third has indicated it will follow suit, the Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) said Wednesday [16 March].

The State Council, sworn in a week ago, mandated ECOMOG to disarm all factions that took part in the four-year civil war, including those that did not sign a peace agreement.

Detailing for the first time the disarmament underway, ECOMOG said in a statement that soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL—the armed branch of the interim government) and the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) had started to turn weapons in at eight special centres around the country.

The United Liberation Movement (ULIMO), main rival of the NPFL, had given ECOMOG the green light to start disarming its fighters, ECOMOG added. Peacekeepers had collected 856 individual weapons, two artillery pieces, ammunition and hand grenades, the statement said. The AFL began disarming March 8, while the NPFL did so on March 12.

A leadership crisis caused the ULIMO to delay, but ULIMO president Alhaji Koromah had now given the green light to begin disarming his forces. On Saturday

General Roosevelt Johnson, ULIMO's top military leader, said he had "reconciled" with Koromah after a crisis sparked by political and ethnic rivalry within the organisation.

Johnson afterwards urged all the movement's fighters to cooperate with the disarmament process.

Nigeria

OAU Initiates Moves To Settle Border Conflict

AB1603132094 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 0900 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Moves to settle the border dispute between Nigeria and Cameroon have been initiated by the Organization of African Unity, OAU. Nigeria's foreign affairs minister, Alhaji Babagana Kingibe, stated this in Accra after delivering a message from Nigerian head of state, General Sani Abacha, to Ghana's President Jerry Rawlings. He said the OAU conflict prevention mechanism, under the chairmanship of President Husni Mubarak, has invited Nigeria to a meeting today to discuss the conflict.

Alhaji Babagana reaffirmed that Nigeria stood for a peaceful resolution of the conflict but was disgusted when France sent troops and armament to support Cameroon. The minister said the OAU had already held several meetings in Addis Ababa and the organization's ability to resolve the conflict peacefully will be a test for President Mubarak's committee.

Minister: 'No Intention' To Withdraw From Bakassi

AB1603192494 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] The Federal Government has no intention to withdraw the troops deployed to the Nigerian Bakassi Peninsula as a condition for peaceful resolution of the conflict with Cameroon. The minister of state for foreign affairs, Chief Anthony Ani, stated this in an interview in Harare, Zimbabwe. He said Cameroon was insisting Nigeria withdraw from the peninsula and revert to its position as at last December, before any dialogue. Chief Anthony Ani, who is on a tour of eastern and southern Africa, said that Nigeria could not withdraw from her own territory. The minister has already met the presidents of Zimbabwe, Kenya, Uganda (?on the matter).

Plans To Reorganize Foreign Ministry Announced

AB1703115294 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] New administrative guidelines are being worked out to ensure the smooth running of the Ministry of External Affairs. The minister of state in the ministry, Chief Anthony Ani, made this known yesterday in Harare, Zimbabwe, while addressing the diplomatic staff of the Nigerian High Commission. Under the new

arrangement, noncareer people will no longer be appointed as ambassadors while retired officers will not be granted contract terms.

Chief Ani explained that the move was to ensure that career FS [foreign service] officers attained the highest positions while still at their prime. The minister of state also announced that a number of the staff in outstations will be recalled as part of the reorganization and cost saving exercise. He appealed to them to cooperate in the restructuring which, he said, was to provide a better fate for them.

Media Accused of Overplaying Reports on Cults

AB1603134994 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Excerpt] The University of Lagos today announced the postponement of its 1993 convocation ceremonies earlier scheduled to begin tomorrow. The postponement was attributed to the closure of the university last Saturday [12 March].

Meanwhile, the vice chancellor of the University of Lagos, Professor Nuredeen Alaho, has blamed the media for the present closure of the university. He alleged that the media overplayed reports of secret societies in the university. Prof. Alaho told the Lagos state administrator, Colonel O. Oyinlola, that the media did not put into consideration the interest of the nation while reporting the cult issues. [passage omitted]

University Closure Continues

AB1603220494 Paris AFP in French 1552 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Lagos, 16 Mar (AFP)—Some 300 foreign students of the University of Lagos, including women, have been in the streets of Lagos today because they have nowhere to go following the closure of their university indefinitely, some of the students told AFP.

The university was closed by the authorities on 12 March following violent clashes at the university between students and members of secret cults on the campus, leaving several dozen students seriously wounded.

"We thought foreign students would be exempt, but to our great surprise we were led out of the campus by the security forces," Albert Aboukem Atemkeng (Gambia), stated the secretary general of the Association of Foreign Students at the University of Lagos.

Among the students are Liberians, Egyptians, Mauritians, Indians, Palestinians, Ghanaians, Gambians, Cameroonians, Sudanese, Ugandans, Nigerois, Zambians, Kenyans, Beninese, Pakistanis, Tanzanians, South Africans, and Equatorial Guineans.

Last night, they were all forced to sleep in front of the offices of the UN High Commission for Refugees [UNHCR], a French language student reported. A

UNHCR source told AFP that the humanitarian organization may probably not be able to help the students since its mission is limited to refugees.

Most of these students now in the streets have modest incomes and cannot meet the demands of such an unexpected situation with their own resources, Joseph Chefu (Cameroon), a law student stated. He expressed the view that the university must grant them some favor as is done by universities for foreign students throughout the world.

This is the second time foreign students at the University of Lagos were expelled at the same time as the nationals following the closure of the university. The first time was in May 1992 during student demonstrations against the government.

Togo

Party Leaders Comment on Meeting With Eyadema

AB1603152594 Lome Radio Lome in French 1900 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Italicized passages recorded]

[Text] Since no single party has obtained an absolute majority in the country's legislative elections, alliances will have to be formed to know which political group will be asked to form the new government. As soon as the results were released, discussions on alliances began. For his part, the president of the Republic, who, according to the Constitution, must appoint the prime minister from the parliamentary majority, has begun consultations with the main political parties of the country. In this regard, delegations of the Togolese People's Rally [RPT], the Union for Justice and Democracy [UJD], the Action Committee for Renewal [CAR], the Togolese Union for Democracy [UTD], and the Coordination of New Forces [CFN] were at the presidency in Lome II district this morning where they took turns in meeting President Eyadema. Their discussions centered on general problems and efforts being made for the country's recovery. At the end of the discussions, the heads of delegation of the parties concerned gave us their impressions. First, the impressions of Joseph Kokou Koffigoh, leader of the CFN.

[Koffigoh] *As prime minister, I usually hold discussions with the head of state and report to him on government business. We discussed state affairs. You are well aware of the principle of continuity in state affairs. It is therefore quite normal for me to hold discussions with the president at the end of this transition.*

[Unidentified correspondent] *You were also consulted in your capacity as CFN chairman. What do you have to say on this consultation?*

[Koffigoh] *The CFN philosophy is known since our campaign was based on it. We participated in the election campaign in a very democratic manner. We are in search*

of national reconciliation, definitive peace in Togo, the recovery of the nation's economy, and the consolidation of our democracy. That is our philosophy and of course we are holding discussions with all political actors who so desire so that these objectives can be realized.

[Correspondent] *How do you see the future of the Togolese political scene and what will be the positive contribution of the CFN to the nation's political life?*

[Koffigoh] *I shall soon end my term of office as prime minister of the transition and a government will soon be formed. I believe that the current consultations being held by the head of state are aimed at appointing a new prime minister, but we shall always be there—at the disposal of our activists as well as the entire Togolese people—for the realization of the four objectives I have just mentioned, namely national reconciliation, the restoration and consolidation of civil peace in Togo, and the social and economic recovery of our country which has been weakened by political conflicts of all kinds, conflicts which have affected the upper and lower strata of the masses. We shall also be there for the consolidation of our democracy, which is like a new-born child. When the new government is formed and parliament begins sitting, this young democracy must be consolidated. However, particular attention must be paid to our country's economic recovery. We shall always be present with the people for the accomplishment of this task.*

Let us now follow the statement of RPT Secretary General Vigniko Amedegnato.

[Amedegnato] *It must be said that we have been waiting for this moment for three years now. We are now at the crossroads and we have understood that the president of the Republic does not intend to waste time. We need to help our country out of its present difficulties and it is useless to waste time in futile bickering. That is why we praise the president for his prompt gesture of contacting the political parties. Second, the president is ready to consult everyone before taking any step whatsoever. We have had the occasion to discuss with him and to communicate to him the RPT's proposals and suggestions.*

UJD chairman, (Lal Tankpa Djaki) who was part of the RPT delegation, talks of his party's alliance with the RPT.

[(Djaki)] *As you know very well, the RPT is the first Togolese party. UJD was created to support the president of the Republic and to help him to establish democracy, something he had begun to do long before the social and political strife. UJD is conscious that only the president is capable of leading the country to the democracy which every Togolese is yearning for and this is why we support the president. It is for this reason that we have formed an alliance with the RPT, which is the main party supporting the president. The RPT and the UJD will therefore work together to help the president lead the country toward democracy and economic recovery.*

Yaovi Agboyibor, who led the CAR delegation to Lome II, also spoke to us after the discussions with the president.

[Agboyibor] *The discussions focused essentially on general problems, especially the efforts being made to create the social and economic conditions needed for the country's development. We dwelled at length on this point because we of the CAR believe that before discussing the main issues, especially the formation of the government, the opposition must act in a united manner. The CAR and UTD will first have to take well-defined positions before discussing with the presidential group.*

[Correspondent] *You told the international media that the opposition has the majority. You said that the UTD-CAR tandem has absolute majority in the National Assembly. Does that mean that an alliance has been formed between the CAR and the UTD. If so, on what basis?*

[Agboyibor] *Yes, I would say that an alliance was sought by and has almost been imposed by the voters. If we have to be true to the will of the people, the UTD and the CAR should unite. This alliance is almost natural and no one has the right to call it into question.*

[Correspondent] *Is it a wish? Is it a desire?*

[Agboyibor] *Yes, you know, as political leaders we have the duty to act in accordance with the will of our voters. People have voted either for the RPT and its allies or for the opposition. We do not have the right to ignore this reality.*

[Correspondent] *Yesterday, the UTD chairman made a statement to the media saying he does not want UTD seats to be attributed without his opinion. What is your observation about this opinion.*

[Agboyibor] *I consider this opinion as Edem Kodjo's and not his voters' and even less so that of his party.*

Finally, UTD chairman Edem Kodjo also gave us his impressions.

[Kodjo] *We reviewed and examined the country's problems in general. So far, this is what has been done.*

[Correspondent] *Yesterday, you issued a communique underlining the UTD's specific nature, and the determination of your party to work for national reconciliation and economic recovery. We have heard other statements to the effect that this position is only that of the UTD chairman and less that of his party and its voters. What observation can you make on that statement?*

[Kodjo] *The UTD chairman always speaks on behalf of the UTD and the statements made by the chairman are binding on the whole party. In regard to speaking on behalf of the Togolese people, I believe no one can arrogate to himself that right. It is however evident that what we said is in accordance with our policy which is to say that we belong to the parliamentary majority and we*

believe our specific nature must be taken into account and our views considered. We want our views to be considered so that we are not reduced to a rump party. However, if decisions are made without consulting us then we will kindly make it known that we cannot agree to such methods. That is all we wanted to say. We are not declaring war on anyone. We are very peace-loving and wish for mutual understanding so that we can agree on programs and actions for the future of this country within the framework of economic recovery and national reconciliation.

UTD Clarifies Duties of Opposition Party

AB1603191494 Lome Radio Lome in French
1230 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Excerpts] Following the proclamation of the results of the legislative elections on 13 March, General Gnassingbe Eyadema yesterday held preliminary consultations with the major political parties in the country. [passage omitted]

Still on the legislative elections, here is a clarification by the Togolese Union for Democracy [UTD]: The UTD Steering Committee expresses satisfaction with the proclamation of the results of the 6 and 20 February legislative elections by the Supreme Court. The UTD lauds this proclamation which in itself constitutes a new victory for the democratic opposition. It congratulates and thanks the Togolese people for their courage and their determination. Through their unequivocal vote, they opted for change.

Contrary to the AFP dispatch which appeared on 15 March 1994 and was signed by Francis Ahouadi, the

UTD is and remains a party that belongs to the democratic opposition. The UTD has, under no circumstance, sold off the victory of the Togolese people in the February legislative elections through any alliance with the forces that it has fought up until this point. However, the UTD wishes to make the following clarification: Before the proclamation of the results, it held informal discussions with the Action Committee for Renewal [CAR]. During the discussions, several proposals were examined by both sides. All the same, before any agreement is reached, the CAR contacted the presidential side to suggest to it a broad alliance within which the post of speaker of the national assembly will come to the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT]. But with the refusal of the RPT to negotiate with its party and working around the UTD national chairman, the CAR chairman, in a second move, suggested the post of the speaker of the National Assembly to the UTD secretary general who declined the offer. The CAR later refused the alternative proposition for settlement made by the UTD.

In light of all this, the UTD was forced to assert its specificity and demonstrated its determination to place itself above the fray. The UTD is ready, in accordance with all the components of the new majority in the elections, to assume all its responsibilities concerning the future of the country. This country is faced with serious political, economic, and social challenges and which it must meet. This demands that the UTD be treated with respect and dignity in its discussions with the CAR. Also consensus must be sought in the fundamental decisions concerning, particularly, the government of the country. For the UTD, it is very important that the victory of the people be absolutely preserved and administered within an atmosphere of indispensable harmony.

[Signed] Edem Kodjo, for the Steering Committee.

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